

Another Band's Treasure: A Story of Recycled Instruments

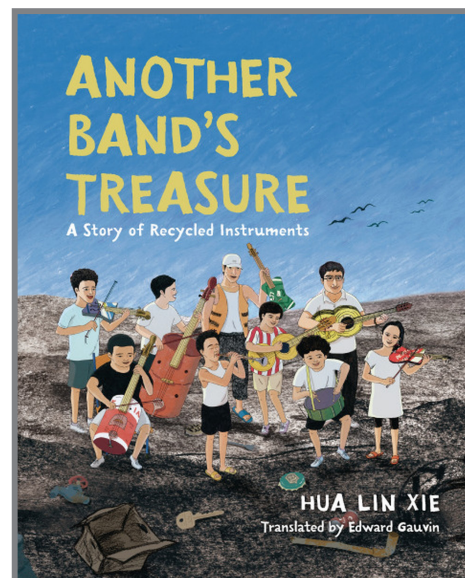
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RECOMMENDED FOR: Mid to Upper Primary



SYNOPSIS

In Asunción, Paraguay, Diego dreams of giving music lessons to local children. The only problem: there aren't enough instruments to go around. But when he and Nicolas, a carpenter, look to a nearby landfill, they see instruments in the making. Soon, they're building what they need to give kids in town a new way to express themselves—and even find recognition they never expected.

A lightly fictionalised tale inspired by La Orquesta de Instrumentos Recicladados de Cateura.

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Hua Lin Xie studied art and animation in Beijing, China, for four years before continuing her studies at the Émile Cohl School in Lyon, France, where she currently resides. *Another Band's Treasure: A Story of Recycled Instruments* is her first graphic novel.

ABOUT THE TRANSLATOR

Award-winning translator Edward Gauvin specialises in contemporary comics. He is the translator of more than 425 graphic novels and a contributing editor for comics at Words Without Borders. His collaborations with Lerner have been honoured by the American Library Association and the Eisner Awards. He lives in California with his wife and daughter.

STUDY NOTES

BEFORE READING

- View the cover and title of the book and identify the following:
 - The title of the book
 - The author
 - The publisher
 - The blurb.
- Based on the cover, what do you think this story is about? How do you think it will begin/end? Revisit your answer after reading the story to see if your predictions were correct.
- Discuss the title of the book. Do you think this is a good title? Why or why not? If you were asked to choose an alternative title for the book, what would it be? Remember, a good title should capture the audience's attention and give them some idea of what the book is about.

AFTER READING**Orientation**

- The orientation sets the scene, mood and introduces the characters. Think about the following after reading the opening scene of the novel
 - Which character/s are we introduced to?
 - What mood is the author setting?

Write what you think could happen in the story based on how the writer has set the story up.

Complications

- It is the author's job to make it difficult for the characters to achieve their goals. What trouble (complications) does the author create to make it difficult for the main character to achieve their goal/s?
- Can you identify the climax of the story, the moment of highest tension?

Characterisation

- Characterisation is how the characters in a novel are described physically, their point of view, their personalities, their private thoughts and their actions. Draw a picture of a character from the book, based only on the descriptions in the book (try and ignore the way they are already illustrated) and then describe their personality in five words. Compare your ideas of that character with other people in your class. Did you imagine the same person?
 - Did your drawing look different from the illustrator's drawing? Did the illustrator draw the characters how you wanted them to look?

Setting and World-building

- Consider the world the author has created in this novel and answer the following questions:
 - Can you describe it?
 - How is it different to the world you live in?
 - Which elements of the world seem realistic, and which seems fantastical?
 - How important were the illustrations in creating the world in this novel?

Resolution

- How does the story conclude (resolution)?
- Compare the ending of the story with how you imagined it ending at the end of the first chapter. Were you surprised by where the story went?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Design your own cover for the book with new imagery and a new tagline that will persuade and interest people in reading the book.
- Choose a scene in the novel and rewrite it from the perspective of another character. Focus particularly on the character's attitudes and feelings, rather than simply recounting events. How might another character see and experience events differently to the character in the novel?
- Imagine that a movie was being made of the novel. In small groups, create a soundtrack to accompany some of the key scenes, thinking particularly about the mood you want to convey. You could either make a compilation of existing songs or compose your own musical pieces. Present your soundtrack to the class, explaining why you have chosen the pieces you have.
 - Also choose your ideal cast for the movie and create a movie poster.